Commission made for purchases from Messrs. Ferris and Co.

139. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether Messrs. Ferris and Co., have written to the Dewan that the head of a certain department in Travancore demanded commission on account of the prices of articles purchased for Government purposes?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to name the departments which get down articles from Messers. Ferris and Co.?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) A letter was received from Messrs. Ferris and Co. which might be construed to contain an insinuation of the kind referred to. Government enquired into the matter and came to the conclusion that there was no justification for such an insinuation.

(*b*) The Medical and Sanitary Departments, the Chemical Examiner's Department and the Brigade Hospital.

South Indian Match Factory.

140. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table the entire correspondence up to date relating to the South Indian Match Factory?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether any and what concessions have been or are proposed to be granted to the said Company;

(2) what the advantages are which the State stands to gain by encouraging the said Company; and

(3) what progress the Company has made towards the starting of a factory and the manufacture of matches?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) and (*b*) (1) and (2) The answer is in the negative. G. O. No. 10508/L. R & F., dated the 2nd October, 1912, containing the terms of the concession has been published in the Government Gazette dated the 23rd Kanni, 1088/18th October, 1912.

(*b*) (3). It is understood that the machinery has arrived at Tuticorin and that the factory building is in course of construction.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Are there any concessions granted or proposed to be granted subequent to the G. O. referred to?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: No.

Contract with Mr. Desikachari in re the Match Factory.

141. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR: Will the Government be pleased to place on the table all the papers connected with the contract entered into by the Government with Mr. Desikachari for the manufacture of matches in Travancore?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The member is referred to the answer furnished to parts (*a*) & (*b*) (1) and (2) of question No. 140.

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